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THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN 4-15 SEPTEMBER 1995 BEIJING, CHINA ACTION FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

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October 1994

THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: Action for Equality, Development and Peace will be held in Beijing, China from 4 - 15 September 1995.

Convened by the United Nations General Assembly, the Conference will adopt a *Platform for Action*, concentrating on "critical areas of concern" — issues identified as obstacles to the advancement of women in the world. It will reflect the review and appraisal of the advancement of women since 1985 in terms of the objectives of the *Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000*.

The first United Nations conference on women, held in Mexico City in 1975, led to the declaration by the United Nations General Assembly of the United Nations Decade for Women 1975 - 1985. The second conference, held in Copenhagen in 1980, adopted a *Programme of Action for the Second Half of the Decade for Women*. The third conference in Nairobi in 1985 adopted the *Forward-looking Strategies*.

The *Forward-looking Strategies* provide a framework for action at the national, regional and international levels to promote greater equality and opportunity for women. They are based on the three objectives of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace. The *Platform for Action*, which will recommend further concrete steps to be taken by policy makers and by women and men worldwide, is intended to speed up the process of making the Strategies a reality.

Mrs. Gertrude Mongella is the Secretary-General of the Fourth World Conference on Women. She also heads the Division for the Advancement of Women which is responsible for organizing the Conference and preparing its documents.

A parallel *NGO Forum on Women '95* will be held from 30 August through 8 September 1995 at the Beijing Worker's Sports Centre, a site close to the Beijing International Conference Centre where the UN intergovernmental conference will be convened. The Forum has two goals: to influence the *Platform for Action* that UN Member States will adopt and to highlight women's vision for the world in the 21st century. The theme of the Forum is to "look at the world through women's eyes".

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CONFERENCE AND RELATED MATERIALS

1. Conference Documents

- *Draft Platform for Action* (last version issued in March 1994)
- *Report of the Secretary-General on the second review and appraisal of the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women to the Year 2000* (to be issued in March 1995)
- *1994 World Survey on the Role of Women in Development* (preliminary summary issued in June 1994)
- *The World's Women: 1970-1990: Trends and Statistics* (second edition to be issued by UNSTAT in June 1995)
- *Updated Compendium on the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women* (to be issued in January 1995)

2. Select UN Publications

- *"To be born female..."* (June 1994: UNICEF)
- *"Girls and Women: A UNICEF development priority"* (December 1994: UNICEF)
- *"An agenda for women's advancement: The women's equality and empowerment framework"* (December 1994: UNICEF)
- *UN Conferences: Putting gender on the agenda* (November 1994: UNIFEM, NGLS and IWTC)
- *Human Development Report — special edition on gender* (1995: UNDP)
- *"Gender, Poverty and Sustainable Development"* (1995: UNDP)
- *"Measuring and Valuing Unpaid Contributions: Accounting through Time-Use"* (November 1994: INSTRAW)
- *"The Migration of Women: Methodological Issues in the Measurement and Analysis of Internal and International Migration"* (November 1994: INSTRAW)
- *"Participation of Women in Manufacturing: Patterns, Determinants and Future Trends"*— five regional reports covering Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Europe and North America, and Western Asia (December 1994: UNIDO)
- *"Women and Drug Abuse"* (May 1994: UNDCP, WHO)
- *UNIFEM Booklets — Global, Latin America/Caribbean, Africa, Asia/Pacific* (1994: UNIFEM)

3. DPI information print materials

- *Conference to Set Women's Agenda into Next Century* (Backgrounder/November 1993; to be re-issued November 1994)
- *Women and Literacy* (Pamphlet/September 1994)
- *Draft Platform for Action: A Summary* (Pamphlet/October 1994)
- *Pre-Conference Brochure* (Brochure/September 1994)
- *Declaration on Violence Against Women* (Pamphlet/September 1994)
- *Official Conference Poster* (Poster/December 1994)
- *Girls: Challenging the World* (Student Leaflet; October 1994)

MOBILIZING FOR BEIJING: REGIONAL PREPARATIONS

Five regional meetings are scheduled to take place during the second half of 1994. Regional preparatory meetings will be preceded in each of the respective regions by a youth consultation in preparation for the Conference. Parallel to the UN's intergovernmental meetings in each region will be five preparatory meetings for the NGO Forum on Women '95.

Specific dates and venues for the UN regional preparatory conferences are as follows:

1. Asia and Pacific: 7 - 14 June 1994 (Jakarta, Indonesia)
Convenor: UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Focal Point: Ms. Meena Patel
Gender & Development Office
UN Building
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Fax: 66-2-282-9602

2. Latin America and Caribbean: 25 - 29 September 1994 (Mar del Plata, Argentina)
Convenor: UN Economic and Social Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
Focal Point: Ms. Miriam Krawcyzk
Women & Development Unit
Edificio Naciones Unidas
Casilla 179-D, Santiago, Chile
Fax: 562-2081946

3. Europe/North America: 17 - 21 October 1994 (Vienna, Austria)
Convenor: UN Economic Commission for Europe
Focal Point: Mr. Patrice Robineau
Women & Development Unit
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: 41-22-917-0123

4. Western Asia: 6-10 November 1994 (Amman, Jordan)
Convenor: UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
Focal Point: Ms. Fatma Sbaity Kassem
Women and Development Programme
P.O. Box 950620, Amman, Jordan
Fax: 962-6-694-981

5. Africa: 16 - 23 November 1994 (Dakar, Senegal)
Convenor: UN Economic Commission for Africa
Focal Point: Ms. Mebo Mwaniki
African Training and Research Centre for Women
P.O. Box 3001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Fax: 251-1-514-416

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MOBILIZING FOR BEJING: NGO FORUM ON WOMEN

Dates and Focal Points for the regional preparatory meetings of the NGO Forum on Women '95 are:

1. Asia-Pacific
16-20 November 1993
(Manila, Philippines)
Focal Point: Ms. Sumalee Chartikavanij
Southeast Asian Women's Association
International, Bangkok, Thailand
Fax: 662-718-0372

2. Latin America and the Caribbean
19-23 September 1994
(Mar del Plata, Argentina)
Focal Point: Ms. Virginia Vargas
Flora Tristan, Lima, Peru
Fax: 51-14-339-060/500

3. Europe/North America
13-15 October 1994
(Vienna, Austria)
Focal Point: Ms. Danielle Bridal
ECE Working Group, Geneva, Switzerland
Fax: 41-22-917-0181

4. Western Asia
3-5 November 1994
(Amman, Jordan)
Focal Point: Ms. Haifa Abu Ghazaleh
General Federation of Jordanian Women
Amman, Jordan
Fax: 962-6-694-810

5. Africa
13-15 November 1994
(Dakar, Senegal)
Focal Point: Ms. Soukeyna Ndiaye Ba
Réseau de femmes africaines pour le
Développement et la communication
Dakar, Sénegal
Fax: 221-254-287

LIST OF UN-SYSTEM FOCAL POINTS FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

MS. MISRAK ELIAS
UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Room DH 40-D, 3 United Nations Plaza,
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel.: 212-702-7264/Fax: 212-702-7148

MS. WAFAAS OFOSU-AMAAH
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New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel · 301-561-0374/Fax: 301-565-0378

MS. CATHARINE PIERCE
United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)
220 East 42nd Street,
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel.: 212-297-5141/Fax: 212-297-5145

MS. VALENTINE M. MOGHADAM
UN University (UNU)
Katajanokanlaituri 6B, 00160, Helsinki, Finland
Tel.: 3580-693-8504/Fax: 3580-693-8548

MS. ALIYE P. CELIK
UN Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS)
2 United Nations Plaza, DC2-944,
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel.: 212-963-4201/Fax: 212-963-8721

MS. ANN HOWARTH-WILES
UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Centre Wm. Rappard, rue de Lausanne
Ch 1202 Geneva, Switzerland
Tel.: 41-22-739-8651/Fax: 41-22-739-8031

MS. MARIE PAUL ARISTY
UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW)
c/o DC1, Room 1106, United Nations,
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel.: 809-685-2111/Fax: 809-685-2117

MS. ELS KOCKEN
World Food Programme (WFP)
426 Via Cristoforo Colombo,
00145 Rome, Italy
Tel.: 39-6-5228-2394/Fax: 39-6-5228-2833

MS. YOUYUN ZHANG
International Labour Organisation (ILO)
4 route des Morillons, CH-1211
Geneva, Switzerland
Tel.: 41-22-799-6930/Fax: 41-22-798-8685

MS. LEENA M. KIRJAVAINEN, CHIEF
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
Via delle Terme di Caracalla,
00100 Rome, Italy
Tel.: 39-6-5225-3351/Fax: 39-6-5225-3152

MS. INGEBORG BREINES
UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
7 place de Fontenoy,
75007 Paris, France
Tel.: 33-1-45-68-12-12/Fax: 33-1-45-67-71-51

MRS. CARLA L. ABOU-ZAHR
World Health Organization (WHO)
1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
Tel.: 41-22-791-3367/Fax: 41- 22-791-0746

MR. MICHAEL BAMBERGER
World Bank
1818 H Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20433, USA
Tel.: 202-473-6438/Fax: 202-522-3233

MS. MONA FIKRY
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
107 Via del Serafico,
Rome 00142, Italy
Tel.: 39-6-5459-2452/Fax: 39-6-5191-702

MS. MARIE-ANNE MARTIN, ACTING CHIEF
UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
Room D-2078, P.O. Box 300, A-1400
Vienna, Austria
Tel.: 431-21131, ext. 3874/Fax: 431-232-156

MRS. PAMELA TANSEY
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
4 Albert Embankment,
London SE1 7SR, United Kingdom
Tel.: 44-71-587-3225/Fax: 44-71-587-3210

FOR INFORMATION ON AGENCY ACTIVITIES or to request agency publications on the Conference, contact the relevant focal point.

FOR INFORMATION AND DPI PRODUCTS, contact: Planning & Special Programmes Section, Department of Public Information, Room 955, New York, NY 10017, USA.
Tel.: (212) 963-1742/Fax: 212-963-4556

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ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION

The Fourth World Conference on Women is an intergovernmental meeting convened by the United Nations. Other participants and observers will include organizations of the UN system, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as well as those NGOs accredited by the Commission on the Status of Women. Last date for applying for accreditation is 13 January 1995. Participants in the NGO Forum on Women '95 register separately with the NGO Forum Planning Committee. The Forum is open to individuals, who must register by 30 April 1995.

For accreditation to the Fourth World Conference on Women, non-governmental organizations may write to:

NGO Accreditation
Conference Secretariat
Fourth World Conference on Women
2 UN Plaza, Room 1204
New York, NY 10017, USA
Tel: 212-963-8034;
Fax: 212-963-3463

For accreditation to the regional preparatory meetings, please write to the Regional Commissions.

For registration with the NGO Forum on Women '95, as well as for the regional preparatory meetings of the Forum, individuals should write to:

NGO Forum on Women '95
211 E. 43rd St., Suite 1500
New York, NY 10017 USA
Tel: 212-922-9267/8;
Fax: 212-922-9269

Media accreditation to the Conference will begin in January 1995. Interested individuals and organizations may write to:

Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit
Department of Public Information,
Room S-250
United Nations
New York, NY 10017 USA
Fax: 212-963-4642

For media accreditation to the regional preparatory conferences, please write to the Regional Commissions.

UPCOMING EVENTS RELATED TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

DATE	EVENT	VENUE/SPONSOR
1994		
1 Sept.	Expert meeting: Violence and Sexual Exploitation	Seoul/UNESCO
8 Sept.	International Literacy Day	UNHQ/DPI
3-7 Oct.	Tripartite meeting of experts on "Social Security and Social Protection: Equality of Treatment between Men and Women"	Geneva/ILO
10-14 Oct.	Expert group meeting: "Gender, Education and Training"	Turin, Italy/DAW
17 Oct.	International Day for the Eradication of Poverty	UNHQ/UN
26 Oct.	North America Media Encounter	UNHQ/DPI, WFS
7-11 Nov.	Expert group meeting: "Women Economic Decision-making"	UNHQ/DAW
9 Dec.	Human Rights Day	UNHQ/UN
5-9 Dec.	Expert group meeting: "Gender and International Decision-making"	UNHQ/DAW
Dec. 1994	Consultation on Education and Development for Women and Out-of-School Girls in Least Developed Countries	Paris/UNESCO

DATE	EVENT	VENUE/SPONSOR
1995		
Jan.	Committee for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women	UNHQ/CEDAW
16-27 Jan.	3rd Prepcom for Social Summit	UNHQ/UN
Mar.	UNESCO international symposium: "Women and the Media"	Toronto/ UNESCO
5 June	World Environment Day	UNHQ/UN
6-12 Mar.	World Summit for Social Development	Copenhagen/UN
8 Mar.	International Women's Day	UNHQ/UN
9-10 Mar.	19th inter-agency meeting on women	UNHQ/UN
13-14 Mar.	NGO consultations for the FWCW	UNHQ/NGO
15 Mar.- 4 Apr.	39th Commission on the Status of Women	UNHQ/CSW
20-31 Mar.	NGO Planning Committee consultations	New York/ NGO Forum
30 Aug.- 8 Sept.	NGO Forum for the Fourth World Conference on Women	Beijing/ NGO Forum
4-15 Sept.	Fourth World Conference on Women	Beijing/UN

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT Department of Public Information, Room S-955, United Nations, New York NY 10017 USA, Tel: 212-963-1742, Fax: 212-963-4556

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